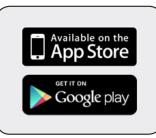
NAEP Results

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Online Resources

Sample Questions Booklets

Examine the types of questions students will be answering.

http://nationsreportcard.gov

Content Area Frameworks

Frameworks guide the development of the NAEP assessment and determine the content to be assessed.

http://nationsreportcard.gov

Information for Educators

Create your own NAEP test and see what students know and can do.

http://nationsreportcard.gov/educators.asp

Information for Students

Allow students to test themselves using NAEP

http://nationsreportcard.gov/students.asp

Data Tools

Explore NAEP results with online data tools. http://nationsreportcard.gov/data tools.asp

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Measure Un

Assessment news for elementary school teachers

A New Generation of **Science Assessment**

Science education is not just about learning facts in a classroom—it's about doing activities where students put their understanding of science principles into action. That's why two unique types of activity-based tasks were administered as part of the 2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) science assessment. In addition to the paper-and-pencil questions, fourth-, eighth-, and twelfth-graders also completed hands-on and interactive computer tasks. These tasks help us understand not only what students know, but how well they are able to reason through complex problems and apply science to real-life situations. While performing the interactive computer and hands-on tasks, students manipulate objects and perform actual experiments, offering us richer data on how students respond to scientific challenges.

Here's what we learned about student performance across the tasks on the NAEP interactive website: http://nationsreportcard.gov/ science_2009/.



Explore the Tasks

Students were **successful** on parts of investigations that involved limited sets of data and making straightforward observations of that data.

challenged by parts of investigations that contained more variables to manipulate or involved strategic decision making to collect appropriate data.

Students were

The percentage of students who could select correct conclusions from higher than for those students who could select correct conclusions and also explain

NAEP 2011 Computer-Based Writing Pilot

During the NAEP 2011 cycle, some fourth-graders participated in a computer-based writing pilot. The design of the 2011 NAEP computer-based writing pilot reflects the way today's students compose—and are expected to compose—particularly as they move into upper elementary school, middle school, and high school. The computer-based writing pilot is designed to measure the ability of students to write using word processing software with commonly available tools. Students complete writing tasks by using their knowledge of effective uses of language in order to make use of common tools for editing, formatting, and text analysis.

Using age- and grade-appropriate writing tasks, the computer-based writing pilot will evaluate writers' ability to achieve three purposes common to writing in school and in the workplace: to persuade; to explain; and to convey experience, real or imagined. Sample items are included below and on the following page.



Sample Items: Computer-Based Writing

TO PERSUADE









Imagine that students at your school are going to select a new school mascot. A mascot is an animal or object used to represent a group. For example, many sports teams have mascots.

Four choices are being considered as your school's mascot: Tigers, Rising Stars, Dolphins, and Rockets. You have been asked to choose one of the four mascots and to support your choice in a letter to the school principal.

Write a letter to your principal convincing him or her that your choice should be the school mascot. Be sure to include reasons and examples in your letter.

TO EXPLAIN

Imagine your teacher has chosen you to help a new student who will soon be attending your school. To prepare for the new student, your teacher has asked you to write a letter to the new student explaining what your school is like so that he will know what to expect on the first day.

Write a letter to your future classmate explaining what your school is like. Be sure to include details and examples in your letter that will help him learn about your school.

TO CONVEY EXPERIENCE, REAL OR IMAGINED

Your school would like to help students think about how a person's actions can make a difference to others. The school newspaper is planning to publish stories about times when students helped someone or when someone else helped them.

Write a story for the school newspaper about a time when you helped someone or a time when someone helped you. Be sure to include details in your story that convey your experience to your readers.

http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/writing/cba.asp

What Is The Nation's Report Card?

The Nation's Report Card informs the public about the academic achievement of elementary and secondary students in the United States. Report cards communicate the findings of NAEP, the largest continuing and nationally representative measure of achievement in various subjects over time.

Since 1969, NAEP assessments have been conducted periodically in reading, mathematics, science, writing, U.S. history, civics, geography, and other subjects. By collecting and reporting information on student performance at the national, state, and local levels,

NAEP is an integral part of our nation's evaluation of the condition and progress of education. Only information related to academic achievement and relevant variables is collected. The privacy of individual students and their families is protected, and the identities of participating schools are not released.